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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/504,740	02/16/2000	Takeo Nishijima	450100-02317	6292
20999	7590	01/25/2006	EXAMINER	
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151			ONUAKU, CHRISTOPHER O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2616	

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/504,740

Applicant(s)

NISHIJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Christopher Onuaku

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 7,8,10-14,16&18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugiyama et al (US 5,633,723) in view of Choi (US 5,915,064).

Regarding claim 1, Sugiyama et al disclose a video printer for making a hard copy from a video signal input from a video tape recorder (VTR), including a video printer which facilitates deleting an image displayed on a monitor in an entire area, or in a section of a frame by muting the video data with predetermined mute data, comprising:

a) composite video image generating means for generating reduced signal video images, each comprising less than a complete screen by reducing the number of pixels to be displayed of each of a plurality of video images supplied from frames of each of a

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plurality of input data stream, a frame from only one of each of the plurality of input data stream being supplied at a time, and generating a composite video image by compositing the generated reduced video images in a substantially non-overlapping manner (see Fig.1,3&4, the conditioning keys 24, system controller 15, memory controller 16, selector 17; col.4, line 45 to col.6, line 18);

b) additional information generating means for generating additional information for each of the supplied video images (see Fig.1, character input keys 25; ; col.5, line 50 to col.6, line 5);

c) dividing means for dividing a memory of the recording apparatus into a plurality of blocks, each of the plurality of blocks having reduced video image, the reduced video image of each block being a composite of images from each of the plurality of input streams (see Fig.1-Fig.4, conditioning keys 24; frame memory 13; memory 15a; and memory controller 16 which is controlled by the system controller 15; selector 17; memory key 21; col.4, line 45 to col.5, line 11), here the conditioning keys 24 set several modes, e.g., for selecting one of a single-frame print mode and multi-frame print modes, for controlling the quality the quality of image. In the multi-frame print modes, one frame is sectioned into a plurality of sub-frames, e.g., four, nine or sixteen sub-frames, arranged in a matrix, and video data of a plurality of images is written in the frame memory 13 such that each sub-frame is assigned to one of the plurality of images; the memory controller 16 controls the frame memory 13 in accordance with condition data stored in the memory 15a of the system controller 15. And Fig.3 shows an example of a frame image divided into four blocks/sections by the conditioning keys

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24 based on the conditioning data stored in the memory 15a of the system controller 15 and stored in the frame memory 13 sectioned into four memory locations S11, S12, S21, and S22;

d) recording means for recording the composite video image and the additional information onto a predetermined recording medium in such a manner of maintaining the correspondence between each of the reduced video images included in the composite video image and each additional information (see Fig.1, recording medium 23; col.5, line 63 to col.6, line 18).

Sugiyama et al fail to disclose recording mode switching means for switching the recording from recording the composite video image to a full recording mode for recording one of the video images when a predetermined condition for the one of the video images is met.

Choi teaches time-lapse videocassette recording (TLV) for a closed circuit television (CCTV), including a method and apparatus for automatically programming whether intermittent or continuous mode is being utilized, wherein the TLV system of Choi is designed to set to perform, upon output from a sensor, intermittent recording mode under normal state, and the general recording mode under the emergency state, using a frame switcher or a multiplexer. Here, the same recording mode and status as those in the TLV are set in the connection switching apparatus 120 (see Fig.1&2; TLV 110, connection switching device 120 and sensor 100; col.2, line 40 to col.3, line 3)

It, therefore, would have been obvious to modify Sugiyama with a recording mode switching means of Choi which is capable of switching from one recording mode

to another recording mode on the basis of a predetermined condition, as taught by Choi, in order, perhaps to satisfy a user's special recording condition, including for example, switching the recording means to record intermittent recording mode under the normal state and the general recording mode under the emergency (alarm) state.

Regarding claim 2, Sugiyama discloses wherein the composite video image generating means performs a predetermined image compression to a video image obtained by combining the reduced video images and outputs the compressed video image as a composite video image (see Fig.1, conditioning keys 24; col.4, line 45 to col.4, line 8)

Regarding claim 3, Sugiyama discloses wherein the predetermined recording medium is a tape-shaped recording medium capable of recording digital video information (see col.1, lines 8-14 and col.3, lines 12-26).

Regarding claim 4, Sugiyama discloses wherein the recording means records the composite video image and the additional information onto the same recording medium (see col.5, line 50 to col.6, line 18).

Regarding claim 5, Choi further teaches wherein the supplied video images are video images intermittently captured by switching the video images outputted from the video supply sources in a time division manner (see Fig.1, cameras C1 through CN,

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sensor 100 and TLV 110 for intermittently recording signals from the cameras; col.2, lines 40-55).

Regarding claim 7, Choi further teaches wherein the supplied video images are video images outputted from a plurality of cameras (see Fig.1, cameras C1 through CN; col.2, lines 40-55).

Regarding claim 8, Choi further teaches wherein the supplied video images are video images intermittently captured by switching the video images outputted from the video cameras in a time division manner (Fig.1, cameras C1 through CN; and connection switching device 120; col.2, lines 40 to col.3, line 3).

Regarding claim 10, the claimed limitations of claim 10 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 11, the claimed limitations of claim 11 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 12, the claimed limitations of claim 12 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 2 above.

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Regarding claim 13, the claimed limitations of claim 13 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 3 above.

Regarding claim 14, the claimed limitations of claim 14 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 4 above.

Regarding claim 16, the claimed limitations of claim 16 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 7 above.

Regarding claim 18, Choi further teaches wherein the predetermined condition is a notification by an abnormally sensor associated with the video image that detects an emergency (see col.2, line 56 to col.3, line 3).

Regarding claim 19, the claimed limitations of claim 19 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 18 above.

Regarding claim 20, the claimed limitations of claim 20 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 18 above.

4. Claims 6,9,15&17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugiyama et al in view of Choi and further in view of Yamamoto (US 5,469,270).

Regarding claim 6, Sugiyama and Choi fail to explicitly disclose wherein the additional information includes at least one of supply source information indicative of each of supply sources of the supplied video images, recording data and time information indicative of date and time on/at which each of the video images is recorded, frame division configuration information indicative of the arrangement and the maximum number of reduced video images in the composite video image, recording apparatus identification information for identifying the video recording apparatus used for recording, and contents information regarding the contents of each of the reduced video images included in the composite video image.

Yamamoto teaches a video editing apparatus for controlling a plurality of video reproducing apparatuses each having a video signal recorded on a recording medium such as a tape comprising a list setting portion for setting the edit decision list showing identification data of recording media which are to be used for a video edit (see Abstract).

It would have been obvious to further modify Sugiyama by realizing Sugiyama with the means to identify recording media, as taught by Yamamoto, since it is well known that adding an identification data to a recording medium, for example, provides the desirable advantage of easily identifying the recording medium.

Regarding claim 9, the claimed limitations of claim 9 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 6 above.

Regarding claim 15, the claimed limitations of claim 15 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 6 above.

Regarding claim 17, the claimed limitations of claim 17 are accommodated in the discussions of claim 6 above.


Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


COO
1/21/06


James J. Groody
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Art Unit 262 2616